

REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 18, 19, 21, 23-27, and 29-34 are pending. Claims 1-11, 13-16, 18, 24, 25, 29, and 31 have been amended, claims 17, 20, 22, and 28 have been canceled, and new claims 32-34 have been added to recite additional features of the invention.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, claims 18-22 and 25-27 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) for being anticipated by the Park patent. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 18 recites a discharge cell having “at least one auxiliary electrode directly connected to the first electrode.” (Emphasis added)(See, for example, Figure 5 for support). The Park patent does not disclose these features. The Park patent discloses a discharge cell having an auxiliary electrode 26 formed between second and third electrodes 24 and 25 and above first electrode 22. However, unlike claim 18, auxiliary electrode 26 is not “directly connected” to any of the other electrodes in the Park structure. See Figure 4, where the auxiliary electrode is separated from all other electrodes 22, 24, and 25 by an insulating layer.

The auxiliary electrode of claim 18 is further recites as being located “on substantially a same plane as the second electrode,” which is required to “cross” the first electrode. The Park structure has an electrode 22 which crosses electrodes 24, 25, and 26. However, electrode 26 is not located on a substantially the same plane as crossing electrode 22. Rather, as shown in Figure 4, electrode 26 is located in the same plane as electrodes 24 and 25, none of which cross electrode 26 as would analogously be required by claim 18.

Because the Park patent does not disclose all the features of claim 18, it is respectfully submitted that the Park patent cannot anticipate this claim. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 18 and furtherance of this claim and its dependent claims to allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 25 has been amended to recite the features of allowable claim 28. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 25 and its dependent claims are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, 15, 16, 23, 24, and 31 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) for being obvious in view of a Park-Baranov combination. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites that “the first auxiliary electrode is directly connected to at least one of the first and second electrode lines.” As noted above, the Park patent does not teach or suggest these features. The Baranov patent is also deficient in this respect, as this patent was cited only to show that it was known to place RF electrodes in a plasma display panel. Based on these differences, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable over a Park-Baranov combination.

Claim 7 recites the step of “forming a first auxiliary electrode directly connected to one of the first electrode lines.” These features are not taught or suggested by the Park and Baranov patents, whether taken alone or in combination. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claim 7 and its dependent claims are allowable over the cited combination.

Claim 10 recites “a first auxiliary electrode directly connected to at least one of the scanning electrode and the address electrode for each discharge cell,” and claim 15 recites “an auxiliary electrode directly connected to the first electrode.” These features are not taught or suggested by the Park and Baranov patents, whether taken alone or in combination. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claims 10, 15, and their dependent claims are allowable over the cited combination.

As the Examiner will note, various amendments have been made to the claims to improve English grammar and clarity. Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments add no new matter and are supported by disclosure of the embodiments of the invention described in the specification and shown in the drawings.

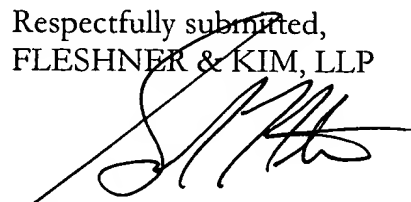
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and timely allowance are respectfully requested.

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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